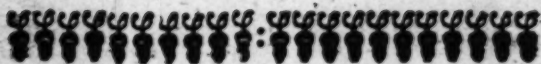




# LICENSED,

*March 20.  
1673.*

*Roger L' Estrange.*

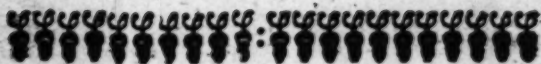




# LICENSED,

*March 20.  
1673.*

*Roger L' Estrange.*



ALMANZOR,  
AND  
ALMANZAIDA.  
A  
NOVEL.

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Written by  
*Sir PHILIP SIDNEY,*  
And found since his Death amongst his  
PAPERS.

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LONDON,  
Printed for J. Magnes and R. Bentley,  
in Russel-street, near the Piazza, in  
Covent-garden. 1678.

NOVEL.

Written by  
MRS. CHARLES ANDREWS,  
and found after his Death among his  
PAPERS.

LONDON,  
Printed for J. Maguire and N. Bentley,  
in Roff's Court, near the Piazza, in  
Covent-Garden. 1697.





THE  
BOOK-SELLER

TO THE

*Courteous Reader, and  
Buyer of this Book.*

**I**t may seem strange  
how this Book should  
lie dormant all this time  
that is elapsed since Sir  
*Philip Sidney's* Death;  
therefore I thought it  
necessary to acquaint

*To the Reader.*

you by what means it  
came to my Hands.

A Gentleman who  
came in the Train of  
the Prince of Orange  
when he was last in  
*England*, brought this  
*Novel* in an old Ma-  
nuscript, and presented  
it to a Lady as a great  
Rarity of that excellent  
Authors Sir *Philip Sid-*  
*ney*, and supposed he  
wrote it when he was  
Governor of *Flushing* ;  
for

NOV 17 1751 A

*To the Reader.*

for soon after his Death  
it was found amongst  
his Papers, and hath  
been several times tran-  
scribed for the *English*  
Gentry there: But this  
that I print it by, is the  
Original Copy.

I cannot suppose but  
I shall do many Persons  
a kindness in publishing  
this *Novel*, by reason  
that they may now buy  
that for a Shilling, which  
so many Persons have  
given

## *To the Reader.*

given Twenty for, and have thought it a Favour to have it at that rate, esteeming any thing of that excellent Authors at what Price soever it should be valued at.

That this Book shall have a good acceptance in the World, I make no doubt of; but if it should be otherwise, I shall not be much concerned, because I have  
in

*To the Reader.*

in this considered your  
Advantage more than  
my own Profit.

Now let me beg  
your pardon for detain-  
ing you thus long from  
what is much better, I  
mean the Book it self;  
which if you receive  
with a favourable a-  
spect, I will assure you,  
you shall get this ad-  
vantage by it, (which  
is no very inconsidera-  
ble one) That for the  
future

*To the Reader.*

future you shall be eas-  
ed of Prefacing from

*The humblest of*

*Your Servants,*

**R. Bentley.**

---

**A L.**

ALMANZOR,  
AND  
ALMANZAIDA.  
A  
NOVEL.

THE Kingdom of *Moroco* had for many years suffered under Tyrannical Powers, when at last it began to breathe, and receive new life, under the just and peaceable Reign of the Great *Abdala*, the most accomplished of all Princes; who having employed his younger years in Arms, had thereby acquired great fame, and assured a peaceful and quiet Seat unto himself, in the most renowned City of *Africa*.

B

It

It was there that in a Palace whose Magnificence did surpass even Imagination, the greatest Beauties of the World spent their days under some severity of restraint, being deprived from the sight of all Objects but their own interview, the presence of a Prince past the flower of his age, and some few young Slaves that were but just stepp'd out of Childhood.

Of all *Abdala's* Women, there was but one absolute, the birth of a Son had render'd her happy; *Roxana* had the most absolute Authority: yet *Cleonisa* did still preserve such a deserved Power over the Kings heart, as she esteem'd infinitely beyond that publick Grandeur, which was the Right of *Roxana*.

Amongst those Slaves appertaining to the King & Princesses, that had the liberty of the Women



mens Apartments, one onely had attained to his twentieth year: He had been presented to *Abdala* in his Infancy, and some years having given him the opportunity to discover most exquisite Parts of Mind and Body, *Abdala* was taken with them so, that they oblig'd him to bestow his Love and Favours upon the Possessor of them, and distinguished him from the rest, by his tender Affections towards him; and proceeded so far, as to honour him with the Magnificent Name of *Almanzor*, so much in esteem with the Princes of *Moroco*, as having been that of many of their most ancient Kings. The onely Mark that remained with him of his Bondage, was a Chain of Diamonds: and if his Apparel had any thing of *Abdala's* Liveries yet remaining upon them, they were so obscured under a vast quantity of Jewels,

4      *ALMANZOR*, and  
els, as not to be discernable.

In short, no Captive in the World had a happier Fate; as many as saw him, became his Admirers; none amongst the most considerable, but thought themselves highly favoured with his Friendship; and to wish, was with him the same thing as to enjoy.

Yet notwithstanding all this Happiness, he fell into such a profound melancholy, as became obvious to all Persons; but in a more particular manner, it was observed by the chief and most ancient of *Abdala's* Eunuchs, unto whose particular care had been committed the Education of his Childhood, of which he had received divers great Advantages, such as were suitable to *Almanzor's* brave Soul. The extreme affection that this Eunuch had for him, made him with the more exactness observe his Distemper;  
and

and not being able to see him in any discontent, it made him enter one evening into *Almanzor's* Lodgings, where having found him, he spoke to him in this manner: 'I have deserved otherwise from you, than that you should hide your sorrows from me: I cannot see that Person overwhelmed with sorrow, unto whose Childhood I have given all my Cares, and to whose Merits I have sacrificed all my Affections, and be ignorant of the cause of his change. Must I have the trouble to see you hide your Sighs from me? Sir, your Interests are too dear unto me, not to reproch you this reservedness. *Almanzor*, I am not unworthy of your confidence; and you ought to believe, that I loving you with that tenderness as I do, I should not desire with so much earnestness the know-

‘ledge of what so much disturbs  
‘your quiet, but to endeavour  
‘the re-establishment of it, even  
‘with the hazard of my Life:  
‘Therefore I conjure you to  
‘speak. At this onset, *Almanzor*  
stood for a while in suspense; af-  
ter which, casting an obliging  
look upon the Eunuch, ‘*Aristan*,  
‘(said he) I should become un-  
‘worthy of your kindness, if I  
‘was so ungrateful as to conceal  
‘from your knowledge any thing  
‘that concerns my Fortune. I do  
‘not mistrust a Vertue so well  
‘known, and so useful to me as  
‘yours has always been: And if  
‘I have hid from your know-  
‘ledge a trouble wholly contain-  
‘ed within the narrow limits of  
‘my Heart, it was that I might  
‘not involve the quiet of a Per-  
‘son to whom I owe a thousand  
‘times more than my Life, in such  
‘secret Misfortunes as must be  
‘suffered

'suffered by me alone. 'Do you  
 'believe (interrupted *Aristan*)  
 'that I can quietly see you suffer,  
 'hear your Sighs, and have your  
 'troubled Eyes for continual ob-  
 'jects, and not be moved? Speak  
 'your mind, *Almanzor*, with this  
 'assurance, that of whatsoever  
 'you can inform me, you will less  
 'afflict me in the declaration of  
 'it, than you do with your obsti-  
 'nate silence; since there are no  
 'such evils, though never so great,  
 'but may find remedies: And if  
 'there be a necessity of courting  
 'you to it, let me conjure you  
 'by all that love I have for you.  
 'Well (replied the Slave, sigh-  
 'ing) you must be satisfied; *Ari-*  
 '*stan*, I love; it is love that cau-  
 'ses all my grief: the onely se-  
 'cret that I would have kept  
 'from your knowledge, because  
 'of its cruel circumstances. 'Your  
 'informing of me that you love,

‘is defective (replied the Eunuch), except you acquaint me with the Object also. ‘Dear *Aristan* (replied the amorous Captive), if ever you have observed me when near the amiable *Almanzaida*, you could not but perceive it. ‘*Almanzaida*, (replied *Aristan*, with an extraordinary emotion) *Roxana’s* Slave! ‘Yes (pursu’d *Almanzor*) it is she that a thousand Charms makes me adore. ‘Remember (replied the Eunuch) that she is destinated to an eternal Servitude; and, if it be possible, fix your heart on some other Object. Dear *Aristan*, (replied *Almanzor*) can *Almanzaida’s* ill Fate make you forget mine of the same nature? ‘Does the glittering of my Apparel so daze your eyes, as that you cannot see the Badge of my Slavery on me? And does this  
‘Chain,

Chain, because of Jewels, alter  
my Condition? It is, peradven-  
ture, that equality of Fortune,  
that unites our Souls. Know, *Ari-  
stan*, that my Grievs are not the  
effects of *Almanzaida's* Rigours;  
for we having been both toge-  
ther bred in this Palace, with  
the liberty of seeing and con-  
versing with one another, have  
kindled such Flames as have  
grown more furious by the dif-  
ficulties they have encountered,  
and which will prove eternal,  
though of a Slave I should be-  
come Master of the whole  
World: For do not imagine,  
that none but my single Heart  
does justice unto *Almanzaida's*  
Beauty; the Prince *Abdemar*,  
Son to the King, and to proud  
*Roxana*, is her Captive also:  
That Rival's he which makes  
me unfortunate; 'tis he, who  
envious of those Advantages

TO *ALMANZOR*, and

‘ which Love gives me over *Al-*  
‘ *manzaida*’s Heart, does by a  
‘ cruel Jealousie disturb the quiet  
‘ of two Persons whom the Hea-  
‘ vens have produced designedly  
‘ to love one another. The change  
‘ which I see in your face, *Aristan*,  
‘ (continued he, after a little  
‘ pause) speaks that particular in-  
‘ terest which you take in my mis-  
‘ fortunes; therefore to give you  
‘ still more occasion of exercising  
‘ your compassion of my mise-  
‘ ries, hearken attentively unto  
‘ the Story of my Love. The  
Eunuch did but cast his eyes to-  
wards Heaven, and *Almanzor*  
thus continued.

*The History of Almanzor,  
and Almanzaida.*

I Need not give you the Pour-  
traicture of *Almanzaida*; she  
is



is too well known to you, to be ignorant of it; and your eyes have too just a discernment, not to inform you, that she is more beautiful than any thing else they ever yet saw: But, *Aristan*, though I am not ignorant of whatsoever her Person has of amiable, you are not thoroughly informed of the excellency of her Soul: In the whole World there is not a Vertue more solid than that she is Mistress of; she has a Generosity beyond all example, such noble Thoughts, such an exact Knowledge, and a quaintness of Wit so little common, that it may boldly be asserted, that her greatest Perfections are wholly unknown to those that have not such familiar Conversations with her, as I have had the happiness to enjoy; in which all is spoken with absolute Liberty.

I was yet so young, and she so  
innocent,

innocent, when she was placed with *Roxana*, that all our Pleasures were limited within the bounds of Childrens Sports; yet then was I infinitely pleased with them, when permitted me; and Love was then interwoven with them, in a manner proportionable to our age. It was still my endeavour to insinuate my self in all places that were bless'd with *Almanzaida's* presence; and the addition of some few years, to those I had pass'd already in that agreeable Commerce, did give to understand, that an innocent complaisancy, and some childish endearments, had been the beginners of a most violent Passion. After that, I had no other thoughts, but such as did absolutely confirm me of the certainty thereof, and would languish in all places that her presence did not grace: I would be out of patience,

tience, when *Abdala* would defer some moments in his custom of sending me with an *How do you* to *Roxana*; and I confess, that I would grumble within my self also, when you detained me upon some Lesson longer than my Affections thought reasonable, of which I could reap no benefit at all, but what did happen by meer chance, seeing that I could have no other thoughts but of her: all my Study was bent in endeavouring to please her, and that took up my whole thoughts: she could no sooner desire any thing, but I would with all the earnestness imaginable effect it: And when at last she had learn'd from her own Heart, and from my Eyes, rather than from my Mouth, part of my Intentions, she would frequently blush at the receipt of any Services from my hands.

The Prince *Abdemar* went but  
too

too frequently unto *Roxana's* Apartment, not to see her, which he could not do without Love; and I had but too much Interest in that Love, not to take notice of it: and the Princes high Birth, and other Advantages, representing daily a thousand Evils in that Concurrence, I suffered infinitely by it. He was not so reserv'd as I; he would speak of his Love to *Almanzaida* in a most tender manner, even in my presence, without the least scruple, or any thought that his Fathers Slave durst raise his Pretensions to the same object to which he address'd his. The young Bond-maid would always answer his Sute with such reservedness as would charm me, and conjuring the Prince to spare her, gave him to understand, that if she had heard him make his Addresses to her, he was obliged for it to nothing but his Rank, and

*Alman-*

*Almanzaida's* evil Fortune. Some moments after, he went out, and I remained singly with her, with an impatient desire to learn the cause of a profound reasoning within her self, in which she had fallen immediately upon *Abdems*' departure. Her Complexion was altered, her Eyes were troubled, and her Respiration being more violent than usual, gave me to understand, that her Heart had a great share in this disorder. Good Gods, how heavy did my doubts and my restlessness lie upon me! I look'd upon her for some time with silence; but at last, taking the resolution to inform my self of the very center of this business, which till then I durst not attempt, *You are surprized, Almanzaida, (said I:) and what is most sensible to me, is, that I perceive with sorrow it immediately follows the Discourses*  
with

with which Abdemar has entertained you. Abdemars Discourses (*replied she*) have nothing in them but what is a trouble to me; and whether what he has said to me be true or feign'd, I think my self very unfortunate in being obliged to hear him. Abdemar is so great a Prince (*I replied*) that he thinks he may say any thing without caution; but if he could be what Almanzor is, then acting like a Slave, he might, 'tis like, less displease the fair Almanzaida in his Addresses. Abdemar (*replied she*) cannot become a Slave without a wonder; but though he is the Son of a great Monarch, his Love is no more pleasing to me, than if he were in Chains, or of a mean Rank: For my part (*added she*) with the unhappiness of an unknown Birth, I have that also of being a Captive; but, *Almanzor*,

I

I know and feel my Heart, and all that it doth inspire me is so great, that notwithstanding my low condition, I feel within me a certain natural adverseness, which makes me look upon all things that carry any thing of mean and low in them, with horror; which flatters me in an opinion, that I am not inferiour to Roxana. I am not happy enough (said I) to have any Intelligence with a Heart whose Motions are so generous; yet, fair Almanzaida, though I can judge of it, but by the outward appearances, it is long since I am perswaded of the Truth you speak, which makes me look upon you with that respect as is due to a Person whose bare Vertue would prefer her to all the Queens of the World. In a word, Almanzaida, you are worthy to Reign in all places, and therefore it is that Abdemar does you that justice. Almanzor,

manzor, (*she replied, with some discomposure, that seemed to me as disadvantageous to Abdemar*) give me leisure to forget his Discourses to me, I conjure you to it; for I declare, I hate that Love which he hath entertained me with; and no doubt but I should hate his Person likewise, should he pursue it. *Thus, (replied I, in an accent that exprest some disturbance) thus it is, that those that love you must merit your hate; and the Son of Abdala is—* Are you his Advocate (*interrupted Almanzaida, looking fixtly on me*)? and is it in his behalf that you design to employ that privilege that your Bondage gives you? *Ah, Almanzaida, (I replied, with such an agitation of mind as she could not but discern) if my better fortune should procure me any with you, it should not be in his, or any others behalf, but my own,*



own, that I should employ it. I am not his Agent, Fair one, but his Rival; and give me leave to say, a more bold and more passionate Lover than he, who desires all, but dare not hope any thing. I did not think (replied Almanzaida, with much coldness) that Abdemar and Almanzor should at the same time make their amorous Addresses to me; and I was in hopes that you would have assisted me, in diverting the thoughts of his Courtship; and not thus add to my troubles. And yet I am not angry with you, though I should resent it; that esteem which I have for you, will not permit me; which I promise to continue, notwithstanding what you have declared, provided you repeat it not, and that you confirm me by your future silence of your repentance.

Divers Persons which were seeking

seeking for *Roxana* did interrupt us; I was obliged to withdraw, where making some Reflexions upon *Almanzaida's* reception of my Declaration of Love, I fancied to find in it more of discomposure than of anger. *Hopes, though small, do pleasantly flatter.* I took enough to persuade me, that I was more happy than *Abdemar*, and that she had impos'd me silence for no other reason, than because she found in her self more disposition to hear and favourably answer me, than she had a mind to discover. I pass'd that night passably well, and the next day having waited on *Abdala* unto *Roxana's* Apartment, I had the happiness to see *Almanzaida*: She appear'd neither cold nor disagreeing, but as if her Eyes, which I observed to be more languishing than fierce, did take care to shun mine, which

I concluded to proceed from a modest bashfulness, that cannot be avoided, when one would hide the motions of the Heart, not being absolutely Master of those of the Eyes.

*Cleonisa* being some few days after at *Roxana's* Apartment, did tell her so many fine things in the praise of the Weather, that she set her in a humour of going into the Garden : *Almanzaida* took up her Train, and *Cleonisa*, who ever had an obliging goodness for me, seeing me in *Roxana's* Chamber, and having observed by my assiduous waiting on *Almanzaida*, that her presence was most dear unto me, made me take an *Umbrella*, to give me the happy opportunity of making one in the Walk. It served onely to cross a Plat of Ground that led to the covered Walks, where being got, *Roxana* having made sign to

to *Almanzaida* to let go her Train, we followed at some distance, under pretence of respect, and so I had the means of entertaining her with liberty.

*Almanzaida* (said I) *those that interrupted us at Roxana's the other day, prevented my answering you, on that severe silence that you would have imposed upon me, and of letting you know, that it is impossible to be silent, and love so passionately as I do. You would not have me have an esteem for you then, (replied she) the Reward of your silence? since you so wilfully relapse into a fault that I was willing to forget? I was going to reply, but Almanzaida continued, saying, You abuse my Indulgence, Almanzor; I was too little mov'd: but if you knew how dangerous an Enemy I can be, you would doubtless fear me more than you do.*

do. There is no resisting of that Power which makes me speak, (I replied) and I am confident that you would pardon me, if you were sensible of it: But am I so criminal only for loving you? and if it be an offence, are not you more guilty of it than my self? Could my Eyes be pardonable, should they see you without admiration? and would that admiration be as perfect as you deserve it, if it were not followed with all that Passion which I have for you? No, fair Almanzaida, none can behold you with quiet thoughts; and I confess, that I shall ever remain a Criminal towards you, if I cannot become innocent without ceasing to love you. I should be very sorry (replied she) that you should cease being my Friend; and to shew you, that it is not Hatred, nor so little as Indifferency that I require of you, I do protest to  
you,

you, *Almanzor*, that I wish you were my Brother. *This is a modest way of wishing me dead* (I replied); for if the amorous *Almanzor* were Brother to the beautiful *Almanzaida*, he would not long out-live that fatal advantage. Judge by these tender resentments, whether it were easie, or rather possible for me to keep silence—— Well, (interrupted *Almanzaida*) since you cannot resolve your self to it, see me no more; shun the occasions of being in those places where I shall be, and I shall take care to forbear those of meeting you. Cruel one (said I) were you so unjust as to execute what you mention, you would have much to do to perform it; and in vain would you endeavour to hide your self from such Eyes as seek after no other Object but you. How obstinate you are, (replied *Almanzaida*)  
and

and what pains must I take to convince you? *Never hope it* (said I) *since 'tis easier for me to die, than not to love you, and let you know it.* I must hear you then, it seems, (*replied Almanzaida, blushing in such a manner as added luster to her Charms*) since that I esteem your Life more than what I required from you. There needed no more to make me apprehend my Happiness: *Almanzaida* being vanquish'd, did from that time no more oppose with fierceness what I would say to her; and I was made sensible of all the Joys that the assurance of being beloved could inspire.

Some short space of time did so confirm me in it, that there was no cause left me to doubt. I am certain, that my Resentments did answer all *Almanzaida's* Bounties, and I neglected no means to make her sensible of it. *Abde-*

*mar* had too much Love not to take notice of mine, and of *Almanzaida's* tenderness also: He did openly reproch her of it, and came to such threatening terms with me about it, as made her to tremble, and to advise me to constrain my self for my Lifes security.

From that very time forward the Prince did treat me with so much contempt, that no consideration could have made me bear, had not *Almanzaida* forced me to it, by such Orders as I shall ever submit unto: He never more employ'd me on his Messages to *Roxana*; and when I was sent by the King into her Apartment in his presence, he would take that Office upon himself: by which, depriving me of my Happiness, he would bring me almost to despair. Yet I still found some favourable means to see and entertain



tain *Almanzaida*, whose Bounties were onely capable of making me happy.

I was one day alone with her, charm'd with the assurance which she had given me, against some fears that troubled me: too much joy was to be perceiv'd in my Eyes, when *Abdemar* came in: He perceiv'd it; and that Pleasure which I could not dissemble, raising a most violent Passion in him, he forgot the Respect which is due to *Almanzaida's* Sex, from which no Rule nor Greatness can ever dispense a gallant Man. I was concern'd at it in such a manner, as would have made me run into some extreme, if *Almanzaida's* looks had not restrain'd me: *Retire* (said he to me, in a disdainful manner), *shun with diligence not onely the speaking to this slave, but the sight of her also; think on those Consequences that*

may follow your disobedience, and believe, that it is not in consideration of your self, that I have spared you till this time. Ending this word, he went into his Mothers Closet. Almanzaida commanded me to obey; but not without so much concern for my safety, as forc'd me to sacrifice all my resentments to her pleasure. My grief did irritate her more against Abdemar, than all that he had said to her; and I was but just gone out, when he return'd. I see (said he) that your heart cannot harbour any other thoughts than such as are proportionable to its condition; and while you disdain a Prince, you give a favourable attention to a Slave, by reason of the proportion which he bears with your condition. I am not to give you an account of the secrets of my heart, (replied Almanzaida, angrily) and it would please  
me

me very much to remain ignorant of yours: Do not expose your self to the shame of loving a Slave, who has not a Soul large enough to contain such an esteem as it should have of such a Conquest as you would be: Leave me and my unworthiness, with the liberty of not hearing of you; and raise to some higher place those tenders of Services which I do not, nor never shall deserve.

*Roxana's* presence prevented her proceeding; and *Abdemar* retired, so netled, that his last looks did set *Almanzaida* into a trembling, with the fears of the result of his Passion: But he never did break out, and the Prince, as jealous as he is, being vertuous withal, has never attempted any thing against my Life or Fortune. But, *Aristan*, what has he not done against my Love? How oft has he most cruelly torn me away from

*Almanzaida's* presence, to possess my room? What Stratagems have I not invented to gain the sight of her, mauer all those Cautions which his Jealousie did suggest to him? In a word, he has so ordered things, that though I am fully assured of *Almanzaida's* Heart, the vexations of seeing her but by stealth, and *Abdemar's* strict observing of my Actions, have reduc'd me unto that restless melancholy which you have taken notice of.

Here did *Almanzor* end his Recital; and perceiving that *Aristan* remained silent, *Will you not say something to me* (said he) *is it thus that you have promised to comfort me; and to allay my griefs?* Ah, *Almanzor*, (replied the Eunuch) you know them not all yet; and the greatest Fortitude you can be Master of, cannot secure

secure you from trembling, when you learn those that I am oblig'd to inform you of. Oh, what a Love is this that the Fates have inspired you with! and from amongst so many others, what a Person have they chosen to give you a Passion for, such a Passion as cannot be continued but with horror! *How*, (replied *Almanzor*, strangely moved) *what horror, and what repentance ought to follow that Passion which I have for the most amiable Person in the World?* I know (replied the *Eunuch*) that her Beauty, her Merit, her Mind, and her Vertue, render you pardonable for that Error you have been in to this present: but, *Almanzor*, learn, since it must be told you, that she is your Sister, and that one and the same Blood does animate you both. *My Sister?* (said he, in a great passion) *do not deceive me thus,*

*it would be my death, Aristan. You must not die, though nothing is more true, (continued the Eunuch) Abdemar shall not be happier than you, since that he shares in the same misfortune, and is Almanzaida's Brother, as well as yours. In a word, Almanzor, you are Abdala's Child, as he is; and both Almanzaida and your self were born of that Prince, and of the generous Cleonisa. The King knows it not, Cleonisa is also ignorant of it, and I am the onely Depository of that important Secret. It is that Blood which is ever acting, though by secret motions, which renders you so dear unto Abdala. It is the same that affection which Cleonisa has for you: and doubtless it is that also which restrains Abdemar from acting against you with more vigour than he hath shewn. Almanzor was exceedingly astonish'd at what*

what he heard; never was sorrow comparable to his: he curs'd his Stars, and remain'd in a most deplorable condition, while *Aristan* inform'd him in this manner of the whole Mystery of his Birth. I

*The History of the Births of Almanzor and Almanzaida.*

**T**here were but two years past, since that the Birth of *Abdemar* had fill'd all the Inhabitants of *Morocco* with Joy, and had fortified the imperious *Roxana's* Credit; when *Haly*, who commanded the Naval Armies of this Kingdom, a Person considerable both to the King and his People, through the important Services which he had rendered, did unfortunately perish by the strength of an infinite number of Pyrates who had com-



bined his destruction, seeing him the Terror of all the Eastern Seas. He was of an Illustrious Birth, and descended from the first Princes that had reign'd over *Moraca*. His unfortunate Death having ruin'd his Fortunes, which had not always been ~~one~~ of the happiest, he left behind him his Family, composed of two Daughters and one Son, without Means or assistance. His Widow felt most sensibly his loss, and finding her self incapable of giving her Son such an Education as would suit with his Birth, she came into this Palace, followed by her three Children, to bring them and her Sorrows at the Feet of *Abdala*, and humbly to implore his Protection and Assistance for the Reliques of a Person who had been so faithful in his Service. These Objects which accompanied *Haly's* sad Widow, were too moving not to prevail.



prevail. The Son was but twelve years of age, the Daughter that preceded him, thirteen ; and *Cleonisa*, who was the eldest, was going into her sixteenth. It is easie for you to imagine, that nothing was so beautiful as she : the blackness of her Habit added more Charms unto her Face, and the King found so much in her Eyes, though drowned in Tears, that granting both Means and Dignities unto the young Prince *Hily*, he made a Gift far greater and more precious than all this unto *Cleonisa*, since it was of that Heart over which *Roxana* had till then had an absolute Empire. He had too much Love, to caution himself ; and mauer *Roxana's* Rage and Jealousie, some few days after he espoused *Cleonisa*. Thus *Roxana* had the grief to see her self have a Rival, even an adored one. As she is ingenious,  
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but very dissembling withal, she took upon her the Art of feigning, she conceal'd her Resentments with policy, & frequently visited *Cleonisa* (who presently after grew with Child) and became almost inseparable from her; thus obscuring under a formal and affected Complaisancy, a form'd design of ruining her, she deceived the King and *Cleonisa* also. I was the only Person that distrust-ed her real intentions, and that feared the evil consequences of this disguised Friendship: *Roxana's* Endearments were always suspected to me, because I knew her Inclinations: yet all my circumspection could not prevent an accident which had like to have been of a most dreadful consequence. The King did love *Cleonisa* most passionately; but he feared *Roxana's* evil spirit, and durst not be wanting in his com-

complaisancy : therefore he was highly pleased to see them in a strict union, which to promote the more, he sought all the means imaginable, daily procuring them a thousand various delights.

*Cleonisa's* great Belly taking away her appetite towards Flesh-meat, she was complaining one day of it to *Roxana*, who caused some Baskets of choice Fruits to be presented unto her, of which she did eat with great delight and satisfaction ; but she was scarce retired to her Apartment, when she fell into a Distemper, the violence of which did make us despair of her Life. I found her in the arms of her Slaves, without colour, and almost without motion. The King, almost desperate, came in running. *Roxana* was one of the first, and of the most busied in her assistance ; but in her Actions I could observe a malicious

licious Joy mix: and examining more nearly all Circumstances, I concluded that she had been poysoned. I have some skill in the choice of Plants, such as I have found divers times by experience to be great enemies to Poysons; and after I had administred a Remedy to *Cleonisa*, I was confirmed in the suspicion which I had had, of the cause of her Distemper. The Heavens blessed the means, and the young Princess seconded their strength; who after she had vomited the Fruit and Poyson, remained without danger of her Life, but much fatigued with the Pains she had endured.

So soon as she could go forth, she returned to *Roxana's* Lodgings, with the same assiduity as she did before, without the least distrust: but apprehending the future by the late experience, I  
resolved

resolved to make her Partaker of my jealousies and fears. My Fidelity was well known unto her, and she had reason to confide in it ; so that she fell into such an astonishment at my Discourse, as would be difficult for me to express. *I confess (said she) that not mistrusting in the least Roxana's dissimulation, I should have at some time or other blindly precipitated my self in those ambushes that she laid for me, had I not had this timely advertisement. Madam, you must feign, as she doth (I replied) ; but let it be so, that she may not have the least distrust of it : Caress the King, who loves you, and to whom I have lately given to understand the same as I have now declared unto you : Secure your own life, and that you go with : for I must tell you, Madam, that Roxana is not onely jealous, but highly ambitious also :*

also : She hates you mortally, because she sees that you triumph over her in the Kings Heart ; and fearing lest you should one day produce a Rival for the Throne unto Abdemar, as there are no Crimes black enough to strike horror in her, neither will she spare any means to prevent it.

Cleonisa did relish my Reasons : The King came unto us, and we took our measures accordingly. That which we thought the surest way, was to conceal the time of Cleonisa's delivery; that your death might be feigned. This took happily; you came into the World, I delivered you out of the Palace, into the hands of such Persons which I knew to be very faithful, and which I had managed beforehand to that purpose. Cleonisa shed such tears at your absence, as confirmed Roxana in the belief

belief of your death, which for the present settled her cruel mind : but within the term of a year, we were again in the same trouble, and *Cleonisa's* second great Belly did set us in a greater confusion than was the first : In fine, we overcame it. *Cleonisa* is tall, her shape easie ; and cruel *Roxana* was not the onely Person that was ignorant of her big Belly ; but every body else of the Palace, except the King, two Slaves, and my self. *Almanzaida* came into the World with the same cautions as we had had for you : I took her from hence also, though but a Daughter, that I might hazard nothing. I trusted her unto a Man of my own Country, whose Wife had been delivered about the same time as *Cleonisa*. Mean time, my Lord, the tender *Cleonisa* was not long without entreating me to have you



you brought secretly into the Palace. I thought my self too weak not to be overcome at some time or other ; therefore I rather chose to cause some sorrow to *Cleonisa* for some time , than to hazard your Life, and *Almanzaida's* also, by telling her that you were dead, and that the young Princess had not outlived you above two Months. She grieved for you both a long time. I told the same story to the King, for fear that through his tenderness to *Cleonisa* he might have deceived her. Six years were expired, before I durst introduce you into the Palace. A supposed Merchant presented you to *Abdala* for a Slave : you from that very moment did please him ; and that high Recompence which he gave to him that had presented you, was a sufficient testimony of it. He commanded me to take the  
care



care upon me of your Education; and you may easily imagine what joy I received with that order. In fine, two years after, by other means, I got the young Princess also into this Place, to whom had been given the name of *Almanzaida* (you bearing that of *Almanzor*) who was presented unto *Roxana*, to endeavour by that means the engagement of her Affections towards her, through a familiar frequentation. She took great care of her; and *Almanzaida* has rendered her self so worthy the affections of all the World, that she could not refuse her hers. My dear Prince, this is that important Secret, of which your particular Interest made me the particular Depositary: You perceive the Reasons which made me conceal it, though I fear too long; but I could not foresee that fatal Engagement, the cause of your afflictions.

*Ab,*

*Ab, cruel Aristan, (cried out Almanzor, seeing him silent) why did you not abandon me to Roxana's fury? You see that the Heavens disapprove of your pity, since I am fallen into that sad disaster of loving my own Sister with a more than Brotherly love. — My Sister! (added he, a moment after) Good Gods! How can I pronounce that word, and live? Oh, thou too charitable Friend, why did you rescue a Victim from Roxana's fury, and did not let it fall unto Roxana's satisfaction, for the security of Abdemar's future Reign? How many evils had you spared me, and sorrows to your self? What a Life shall I lead for the future? What quiet can I ever hope for, being thus linked to a Passion, which I find that the name of Brother will never extinguish in me? Whatever Aristan could oppose to his Passions,*

sions, or that he could alledge to moderate the Princes grief, was all in vain; he could find nothing in him but a rebellious and disturbed Reason, which would not permit him to hearken to any advice. He conjur'd *Almanzor* to continue the Secret, and took upon him to inform *Almanzaida* of all things.

It is easie to imagine what a restless night this miserable Prince had. The next morning he feign'd himself indisposed, that he might not be disturbed; and *Aristan* having found out some opportunity of entertaining *Almanzaida*, related unto her the same things which he had done to *Almanzor* the day before. Though she was less passionate than the Prince her Brother, yet she was not less sensible; and if she fell into no passion before *Aristan*, as he had, she, it is very probable, did it in private,

vate, and with as much sorrow. *Aristan* exhorted her to silence, till he had disposed the minds of the most concerned for the reception of such surprizing News; and so he left her, as much oppressed with grief, as was *Almanzor*. He kept his Chamber three days, and *Almanzaida* her Bed during the same time, the better to conceal a trouble which she could not overcome: She feared to see a Brother whom she loved with too much passion; and this unfortunate Prince, still fearing to confound his Sister with his Mistress, had not the power to go towards *Roxana's* Apartment, though carried on by such powerful Motives. At last he resolved it. Three days of violent sorrow had made such an impression on *Almanzor*, as was sufficient to persuade any one that he had been sick; and *Almanzaida's* tears

tears had rendered her eyes so languid, as if she had thus punished them for having carried her Charms into her Brothers very Heart. The disconsolate *Almanzor* found her alone, in *Roxana's* Chamber; and never two Persons that feared, and yet passionately longed to see one another, did feel more equal Passions at their approach. The Princess did cast down her looks; and *Almanzor*, who under the name of a Lover, as well as of a Brother, did still take the same delight in beholding her, fixed his upon her Face; and after some moments of silence, which were employed in sighing, *Madam*, (said he) have you forgot me? have you not one word for me? will you not speak to me at this time specially that I have so much need of your Vertue, to console a Soul so overcome with sorrow, and grown even desperate

*sperate by that very advantage which will prove fatal to me, though in the same moment infinitely glorious. If I had that pitch of Vertue which you speak of (replied the Princess) it would be very useful to my self at present; and you may well imagine, that being no less surprized, nor less overcome with Sorrow than you are, Consolation would be as necessary for me, as for you: But, dear Brother, we must seek for comfort in constancy; and if I cannot be an example of Fortitude, at the receipt of so unfortunate a knowledge as we have lately come to by *Aristan*, but too long concealed from us, I will at least serve you, in helping you to forget that criminal tenderness which ought not to consist between such Persons as are animated with one and the same Blood. Oh, cruel one, (replied the Prince, looking*

looking languishingly upon her) I find that it will be easie for you to effect what you say; since that you can pronounce with so little concern that Name which shall never be expressed by me. What (ad-ded He) shall a few moments be capable to extinguish those Fires, that I have had so much pains in a long assiduity to kindle? And I foresee that you will easily be brought to look with some indifferency upon that Person, who, though a Slave, you had preferred to a Prince." I see, Almanzada, that you onely thought you loved me, but never did it really. I shall profit but little of the advice you would give me; and though the merciless Fates have determined, that I must never be more than a Brother to you, yet they shall never force my passionate affections from you, but that I shall ever love you, as I have always done. For it



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is but just, that since you have changed onely in Name, but have preserved all your Beauties, I shou'd likewise preserve my Love, after the loss of all my Hopes. The Heavens (replied Almanzaida, sighing) would punish you, shoud you do what you say; and being what we are, such a Love can remain no longer innocent. Alas! what more cruel Grievs than those I suffer at present, can happen to me? (repli'd the Prince) It is not death that I wish for, though it would be far more welcom to me than life, as I look upon it at present. Know, Madam, that the more I reflect upon what has past, the more horror I have for the future. You know, that through your bounty, forgetting the obscurity of my Birth, and all that could afflict a Man whose Soul was sufficiently raised above the Vulgar, I was become sensible to my Passion onely. You are not ignorant



norant also, Madam, that proud of that preferency which you had given me above Abdemar, I esteem'd my self incomparably more happy than him with all his Dignities: And can you think, that this so passionate and constant Heart, submitting it self unto a timid Vertue, would sacrifice unto it such a Passion as is to out-last all sorrows, and even Time it self? In such a case, the Resignation would be a Crime; and doubtless that Love must be but very superficial, that can so soon be laid aside. But you, Almanzaida, you that have honoured me with your Love, or that at least would have made me believe such a thing in you, is it possible that you should so soon be at an agreement with that thing called Decency, so that a meer scruple can so suddenly triumph over your Heart? and that in the midst of all my sorrows, I have not so

*much left me, as the bare comfort to think, that this surprising change has been unwelcom to you?*  
 Good my Lord, (*replied the Princess*) do not thus pierce into a weakness which is so difficult for me to conceal. I seek how to cure, and not how to afflict you. But you, my Lord, do not do me that Justice. I hid my Tears from you; yet you are so cruel as to lay all your Sorrows open to me, and add to them such Reproches as I do not deserve. Can you imagine, that she that preferred you before the Prince *Abdemar*, at that very time also when your Chains were your greatest Ornament; did but indifferently love you? Can you believe, that that Preferency was the effect of a wavering Heart, not firm in its Resolutions? No, Sir, you know not *Almanzaida*: I share your Sorrows, am no less sensible of them  
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than your self; but they are past remedie, and I can see nothing but Time and Reason that can overcome them: Let us wait the one, and endeavour to make use of the other; and in the mean time, my Lord, in pity of me, moderate a Passion that overcomes me, and be assured, that I am not of sufficient strength to bear, without dying, both your Sorrows, and my own.

*Almanzaida* was going on, when the Prince *Abdemar* came in: He presently cast such Looks on *Almanzor* as were full of indignation; but straight smoothing them up again at the sight of the Princess, whom he had not seen of three days before, he took notice of a change in her Face; and then perceiving *Almanzor's* trouble, he knew not what to attribute it unto: and being but too well persuaded of their

reciprocal Love, he imagined that their sadness proceeded from the despair of ever being happy in the enjoyment of each other: And it is probable, that in this imagination he might have flown into some Passion against *Almanzor*, had not *Roxana* come in. *Almanzor* withdrew himself, and passing through a Gallery that led into *Cleonisa's* Apartments, he met her as she was coming out of them. Though she was absolutely ignorant of his Condition, she had a most tender affection for him, and making him sign to draw near, *As I have always been concerned in your Interest, Almanzor,* (said she) *I must now give you a most important advice, while I have the opportunity of speaking to you in private. You love Almanzaida; Abdemar is your Rival, who intends (in order to your eternal separation from her) to get*  
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the King to enfranchise you, so to turn you out of the Palace, and out of Moroco also. This I learned from his own mouth some days since, I being hid in a place where I overheard him, while he was discoursing of it with Zais, who doubtless is of his Secrets. What Charms soever Liberty can put on, I am of opinion that you would find but little content in them, whilst separated from Almanzaida. I was glad of the opportunity of giving you this Advertisement, that you may take your measures against Abdemar and Roxanna's Designs, who will not fail inconsiderately to execute whatever her Son shall require. During Clonisa's Discourse, the Prince found himself agitated in divers manners, and was often upon the point of discovering all *Aristan's* Secrets unto her; but remembering that he had promised the contra-

ry, he kept them still within himself. *I am infinitely obliged to your Bounties, Madam, (said he,) and I know nothing in the World that I would not do, to render me worthy of it. It is certain, that I love Almanzaida; and it is no less true, that Abdemar is my Rival in it; But, Madam, neither he, nor I can have any further hopes: some day you may learn the surprising cause of it: Mean time, Madam, continue to protect a miserable Persian, who is threatened with so many misfortunes; watch also for Almanzaida. Cleonisa could return no answer, because some body came by; so that Almanzor was forced to retire himself; and she went into Roxana's Apartment, amazed at his Discourse, where she found Almanzaida all in tears. Abdemar, transported with jealousy, was resolved to break off all Converse between Almanzor and*

and *Almanzaida* ; and having found *Roxana* in a fit humour to open his Designs to her, he told her, That they had a confirmed private Intrigue between them, which for some discontents against *Almanzor*, he intreated her to break off, and to forbid him her Apartment. *Roxana* was a declared Enemy to all the Worlds quiet, and glad of the opportunity of troubling two Persons that loved one another, she assured her Son, that she would not only forbid *Almanzor* her Apartment, but that she would also turn him out of the Palace, for having secret Amours there, and even out of *Moroco* also, if occasion required it. *Abdemar* went forth well satisfied with this assurance ; and *Roxana* having caused *Almanzaida* to be called, *I should never have believed* (said she to her) *that forgetting that Vertne in*

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*which you have been educated, you would have lent an ear after amorous Propositions, and bound your self in an Intrigue of Love with one of the Kings Slaves: yet it is but too true, that it is so; and the audacious Almanzor, abusing of those Privileges which my Bounty and Abdala's Favours had procured him above many others, has been so bold as to seduce your Heart in this very place. I am convinced of this by unquestionable assurances, and it is with trouble that I speak it. I had conceived a sincere affection for you from your very Infancy; and looking upon you with the Eyes of a Mother, rather than of a Mistress, I had designed something more than a Slave for you: But since your Heart has made an unworthy choice, and would not stay for mine, all that you must hope from it, is, that Almanzor shall turn out of this Palace,*  
*never*



never to enter into it again; and moreover, I shall not onely deprive you of those advantages which I intended you, but of my Esteem and Friendship also.

*Almanzaida's* Heart was but too sensible, to endure with patience *Roxana's* Taunts; she was conscious of her own innocence, and had always lived with *Almanzor* in such a manner, as deserved Praises, rather than Reproches. Therefore looking on *Roxana* as on a Person that would have sacrificed to her own Fury both *Cleonisa* and *Almanzor*, with a boldness that had some mixture of scorn in it; Madam, (*said she*) I neither deserve your Reproches, nor your Menaces; and my Inclinations have ever been so much to Vertue, that peradventure I have even outgone those Lessons which were given me therein. I have no commerce that can make  
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me blush; and I dare tell you, Madam, (whar Respects soever I owe you) that you never did perceive in me any thing that could give you any disadvantageous thoughts of *Almanzaida*. I speak with that freedom, Madam, which perhaps is not wholly sutable to my Condition, but which is very conformable to the motions of my Heart, and to those sensible wrongs which I do not deserve, neither know I any Power that can make me to suffer them. I have made no unworthy Choice, Madam; and mauger the obscurity of my Birth, knowing my Soul sufficiently raised above the Vulgar, I leave the success of my Destiny unto the protection of Heaven; I hope the Gods will accept of it, and procure me the means of justifying my self. But, Madam, though you should unhappily deprive me of your Protection, upon

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on such groundless suspicions, I should endeavour to console my self of such a disgrace as I had not drawn upon my self, and that I had not deserved. *I know not* (replied *Roxana*, fretted at *Almanzaida's* Answer) *which of us two is the Queen, and which the Slave: Yet when I consider you, I can see nothing but the effects of my Bounties, and Almanzor's Mistrifs. I know what I am, Madam, (replied Almanzaida, resolved to justify her self)* I acknowledge my self your Slave: But if my Person is obliged to you, it was for protecting a miserable wretch, destinated to bear your Chains, and to serve you; and I am sensible enough, that this servile condition requires nothing but submission in me: But, Madam, my Heart and my Condition are at odds, and I may say, that the one is the wreck of the other; and if I believe my Heart,

Heart, which is impatient of suffering wrong, if I am no Queen, at least I am not descended from a place much inferiour to a Throne. *A Conquest so Illustrious as that of Almanzor* (replied *Roxana* scornfully) *cannot inspire lower thoughts. Almanzor* (replied the *Princess*) has a Vertue that would justifie all those that I have for him. *I know* (interrupted *Roxana*) *that Vertue does affect you so, as to make you fancy your self the more considerable for it; but such weak Imaginations move nothing but Commiseration: and for my part, I pitty you, for losing in one day that precious Lovers sight, with all the hopes of ever seeing him again. Go, shut up your shame, and hide it from my sight, and the rest of the Worlds also. At these words Almanzaida retired, anger drawing a deluge of tears from her fair Eyes, which was the*

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condition that *Cleonisa* had found her in. She endeavoured to comfort her, and to learn the cause of her troubles. *Almanzaida* informed her of it, not mentioning in the least *Aristan's* Secret, though not without great restraint. *Cleonisa* was moved at it, and embracing the young Princeſs, 'It is but a moment (ſaid ſhe) ſince I was advertiſing *Almanzor* of what you were both to fear: but, my dear *Almanzaida*, what Service can I render you? 'The moſt conſiderable that I can expect from your generoſity, Madam, (replied ſhe) is to do me more juſtice than *Roxana*. ' *Roxana's* Soul and mine (replied the amiable *Cleonisa*) are too different, to have the ſame Motives: I have but too much cauſe to believe her unjuſt; and though I were not ſo ſatisfied as I am of your Ver-  
tues,

‘tues, her bare Accusations would  
 ‘be sufficient to confirm your In-  
 ‘nocence to me: But once again,  
 ‘what must be done in this jun-  
 ‘cture? ‘Give notice to *Alman-*  
 ‘zor of all that has passed (re-  
 ‘plied *Almanzaida*); bid him  
 ‘to consult *Aristan*, and that they  
 ‘use all the means they can ima-  
 ‘gine to deliver me from these  
 ‘aspersions, and from *Roxana*’s  
 ‘and *Abdemar*’s Persecutions. *Al-*  
 ‘manzor must no more come in-  
 ‘to the Palace, Imperious *Roxana*  
 ‘banishes him from thence for  
 ‘ever; and since you have the  
 ‘goodness, Madam, to engage  
 ‘your self in an unfortunnte Crea-  
 ‘tures concerns, be pleased to see  
 ‘*Abdala*’s Slave, tell him my con-  
 ‘dition: Time presses, and one  
 ‘moment of wrong unto *Alman-*  
 ‘zaida’s Vertue, is capable of  
 ‘casting her into despair. *Cleo-*  
*nisa* had no more time, than to as-  
 sure

sure the Princess, that she would act as she desired; for *Roxana's* coming in, obliged *Almanzaida* to retire.

*Roxana* said not a word to *Cleonisa* of what had happened; she designed that the business should break out in publick: her Slaves Answer had so strangely vexed her, that she could entertain no other thoughts but of her destruction. *Cleonisa* staid but little with her, being in an impatience of assisting *Almanzaida*; and because she could not seek out *Almanzor* her self, so soon as she was in her Apartment, she writ him a Note, which she gave to an old Eunuch to deliver unto him, in which were these words.

To ALMANZOR.

A Most important Business is the cause that I must of necessity

cessity see you this day; having such things to impart to you, as are not to be confided to Paper. Meet me within two hours at the Fountain of the Labyrinth: I shall not fail to be there, and to let you know whether your Interests are dear unto me, and what thoughts there are of you in the Bosom of

CLEONISA.

What a World of Troubles did this innocent Letter cause in Abdala's Palace? The Slave Toxara did carry it in his Hand so that it might easily be perceived, and was passing into the Kings Apartment to seek out Almanzor, when he met Roxana, whose suspicious Eyes were immediately cast upon the Note. 'What Messenger are you going about, Toxara, (said she to the Slave)? 'What is that Paper you carry? He



He not answering, and seeming perplexed, rendred *Roxana* the more curious, who took the Note out of his Hand, with no further consideration than of her own satisfaction, with which she returned into her Apartment. *Toxara* durst not inform *Cleonisa* of the truth of the business, but gave her to understand that he had lost the Note, after he had made a fruitless search for *Almanzor*.

*Roxana*, whose spirit was naturally wicked, presently suspected that *Cleonisa* had some private concerns with *Almanzor*; and howsoever she had hitherto concealed her thoughts, it is most certain that she always hated her, seeing with rage and spite her Merits to reign so powerfully over *Abdala's* Heart: being overjoy'd of having this opportunity of ruining so dreadful an Enemy as she esteemed *Cleonisa*, she put  
up

up the Note for the present, not without a world of revengeful thoughts.

Mean time this accident, and the night coming on, had broke all *Cleonisa*'s Measures; and what desire soever she had of serving *Almanzaida*, she was forced to stay till Morning, to advertise *Almanzor* of her desires to speak with him: While she was musing which way to compass it, (a Note having already been lost) *Almanzaida* in her solitude overcome with sorrow, *Almanzor* suffering still at the same rate, incapable of comfort, *Roxana* was not idle: *Abdala* coming into her Chamber that night, according to his custom, she could no longer defer giving the first onset unto *Cleonisa*'s Happiness: 'My Lord, (said she to *Abdala*, with an affected sorrow) it is with great reluctance that I am obliged to  
 'inform

‘inform you of a Business which  
‘will be unpleasing to you; and  
‘were not your Honour interest-  
‘ed in it, I would not be thus in-  
‘strumental in any trouble to  
‘you: But, my Lord, your Glo-  
‘ry is concerned in it; and what-  
‘soever be the event, you are not  
‘to be long kept from the know-  
‘ledge that *Cleonisa* is false to  
‘you, and that it is *Almanzor*,  
‘whom you love as your own  
‘Child, that insolent Slave, that  
‘dishonours you, and entertains  
‘a secret Traffick of Love with  
‘her. Ah, Madam, (said the  
‘King, struck with her words as  
‘with Thunder) do not distrust  
‘*Cleonisa*’s Vertue, and *Alman-*  
‘*zor*’s Fidelity. ‘You know *Cleo-*  
‘*onisa*’s Character, (replied *Rox-*  
‘*ana*, giving him the Note) Read.  
At this sight *Abdala* had much to  
do to believe his own Eyes: He  
loved *Cleonisa* more than ever he  
had

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had loved *Roxana*, and *Almanzor* had always been in a manner as dear to him as *Abdemar*; and those kind thoughts he had for them, making them seem much the more guilty, ‘Ah, perfidious, ‘(cried he) you shall both perish, ‘and your criminal Lives shall ‘revenge me of so sensible a ‘wrong. Does *Cleonisa* thus betray me? and is it *Almanzor* ‘that seduces her? This is too ‘much, and I will no longer defer the Decree of their Ruine. *Roxana*, who politickly weighed all things, did fear that if this Business should break forth more publickly, it might so happen that a Justification would destroy her Designs, retained the King as he was going forth to pronounce their deaths, and craftily gave him to understand, that he was not to publish an Affront which would grow greater by being divulged.

vulged. This Advice did something allay *Abdala's* rage, who retired into his Apartment. At the same instant *Abdemar* came in, and *Roxana* renewed her pleasure, in repeating to him what had happened. He believed nothing of it, and was too well skilled in tender Affections, to believe that those which *Almanzor* had for *Almanzaida* were not real: He therefore would have perswaded his Mother, that *Cleonisa's* Note was more mysterious than guilty, and that she ought not to expose her to the Fury of the King, without a further search into the Business had first been made: But in stead of receiving this good advice, she accused him of timidity and weakness.

*Abdala* passed that Night without rest; and the great Love he resented for *Cleonisa*, and tenderness for *Almanzor*, made him conclude

clude them the more deserving death, which he was preparing for them. *Aristan* had hitherto been the sole Depositary of all his Secrets; but he would not make him partaker of this last: he was *Almanzor's* Adorer, and *Cleonisa's* faithful Agent, who had too great a liberty with him, not to employ all his Interests in their behalf. Thus did all things concur to both their ruines; who not thinking of what was preparing for them, were entertaining themselves of all that had hapned the day before. *Almanzor* returned a thousand thanks to *Cleonisa*, for what she had done for him; and being sensible of those ill things which *Roxana* was contriving against *Almanzaida*, he took leave of *Cleonisa*, to go seek *Aristan*, to conjure him to declare a Secret that could not have more dangerous Consequences when published,

ed, than it had already. The Eunuch, to please the Prince, run immediately to the King, who, having resolved not to see him till after he had executed his Designs, feigned to be sick, and pretended to repose; so that the Fates had a full scope to bring this Adventure to the last extremity. *Almanzor* was past all patience at these delays; he durst no longer cast his Eyes towards the place which contained *Almanzaida*: Imperious *Roxana* was insulting over *Cleonisa*; and *Abdemar* durst not complain of not seeing *Almanzaida*, for having drawn this evil upon himself.

Mean time, the incensed King would no longer defer his Revenge; and the evening of that same day the Executioners, of such private Deaths had Orders given them to deprive *Cleonisa*

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and

and *Almanzor* of their Lives. *Roxana* was suddenly informed of the Sentence, and so was feeding her ambitious thoughts with the pleasure of Reigning solely. She would have the satisfaction to acquaint *Almanzaida* first, of that thing which she thought would be the most sensible to her in the World: She sent for her, and not forbearing at *Abdemar's* arrival, because she no longer feared the revocation of those Orders that had been given, and 'tis probable already executed, she informed the sorrowful *Almanzaida* both of the Deaths and pretended Infidelities of her Lover, and of *Cleonisa*. This unexpected News had like to have cost the Princess her Life; she fell upon a Couch that was near her, without colour or mention. *Abdemar* run to her, and discovered unto his Mother, by that



that diligence he used, what she had never mistrusted. *Roxana's* Slaves did second those Cares which he took to succour her; and while some were flinging of Water in her Face, and others tearing off her Clothes, *Abdala*, mortally troubled at what was going to be done, came into *Roxana's* Chamber; and found *Almanzaida* in that desperate condition: He learned the cause of it, and judged *Almanzor* the more deserving death, in betraying not onely his Bounties, but the beautiful *Almanzaida* also; who at last came out of her swoon, having gathered some strength through an effect of the very same Sorrow that had deprived her of it before: How beautiful did she appear? and how difficult it was to see her in that strange disorder, and not be infinitely moved at it! The dis-

composing of her Dress, the languidness of her Eyes, her Tears, her sorrowful Complaints, and, in a word, all her Actions, did contribute in exciting both Love and Commiseration at the same time. The discomposure that she found her self in before the King, did not prevent her from casting her self down at his Feet, *Ab, Sir, (said she to him) preserve Cleonisa, and do not lose Almanzor, if you will not expose your self to a remorse more cruel than their deaths.* *Almanzaida (replied Abdala)* I ought to revenge my self of a most ungrateful Woman, and deliver you from a perfidious Man, who is unworthy of your Tears, and that deserves a thousand deaths more cruel than that which is going to punish his Crimes. *He is not perfidious, Sir, (cried she); he is your own Blood, your Son, and of un-*  
*fortunate*

fortunate Cleonisa, who by Roxana's treachery, after so many years of distrusts and precautions, falls at last the Victim to her fury. Yes, Sir, Almanzor is your Son, and that unfortunate Creature that speaks to you at this present is his Sister, your Daughter, Sir: believe it, Sir, and Aristan shall confirm it; it is he who being convinced by experience of what we were to fear from Roxana's rage, deceived you, to preserve us: These are the Criminals that you sacrifice to her satisfaction. Almanzaida's Discourse found not any thing in Abdala's Heart that could resist it; and those tender affections which he always had for Almanzor, were convincing proofs that he was his Blood: It would be difficult to express his grief; and the first word that he spake, was to bid Abdemar hasten to render him a Service more im-

portant than his Life, in endeavouring with all diligence to prevent *Cleonisa's* death, and *Almanzor's* also, if it were yet time; bidding him remember that he was his Brother, and worthy of that Title by a thousand Vertues. *Abdemar* deferred not a moment to obey; he was generous, and really moved with what he had but just learned, he flew to *Cleonisa's* Apartment. Mean time *Roxana* seeing *Abdala* busied in giving *Almanzaida* some Testimonies of his Affections, was reflecting with an inward rage on the sudden change that some few words had brought to this business, and was seeking in her Heart and Spirit, ingenious to all evil, some means by which she might invalidate *Aristan's* Testimony, and render it of no effect, by making it pass for a feigned Story, who in a days space did bring again

gain to life not onely that Child of *Cleonisa's* which she her self had thought dead coming into the World, but another also, of whose Life she was wholly ignorant.

*Abdemar* came happily to *Cleonisa's* rescue; who constant in her adversities, was writing her last thoughts unto *Abdali*. He staid with her no longer than to make known that the Orders were reversed, and run immediately to *Almanzor's* Lodgings; but it was too late, and his Executioners, more diligent than *Cleonisa's*, having found him upon his Bed, had mercilessly strangled him there.

*Abdemar* moved at so deplorable a fate, could not stay his Eyes on so dreadful a Spectacle; and too certain of a Truth which so afflicted him, he returned to *Roxana's* Apartment: *I have staid too long, Sir, (said he to the King)*

*Cleonisa lives, but Almanzor is breathless.* At these fatal words he King resented his Sorrows to the quick, and repented that he had so lightly given credit to *Roxana's* perfidiousness : The beauteous *Almanzaida* found herself in the height of extremity also. *Abdemar*, whose affections unto her had given way to a real tenderness, did wholly lay upon himself the cause of all these evils, and being moved with a sincere penitency, did reproch unto *Roxana* her barbarousness, unto which the King added his resentments ; and certainly nothing in the world could be more touching, than to hear all that passed between them. In fine, *Abdala* retired from a place in which *Roxana's* presence did but augment his sorrow, and went to *Cleonisa's* Apartment, leading the most afflicted *Almanzaida* along with him ;

him ; where they found the Princess as composed , as if she had had nothing to fear : but she soon ceased to be so, when she learned at once both the Life and Death of her dear Son : It was her Hand that had sacrificed him, and without that fatal Note *Roxana* could not have destroyed him. In vain did the King endeavour to recal her Fortitude by his Embraces ; *Almanzor* was no more, and though innocent of his death, she looked upon her self as the cause of it. *Since that your unjust distrusts* (said she to the King) *have caused me so much sorrow as nothing can ever console me, and that the unfortunate Almanzor was not rescued from furious Roxana's rage, but to become a more noble witness to her cruelty ; and that without enjoying the happiness of his Life, I have all the sorrows that such a*

death could produce, suffer at least that I may give unto his Heart, as cold as it is, such Embraces as I could not give unto him living. At these words, without staying for *Abdala's* Answer, she went towards the Slaves Quarters, and had already crossed some Galleries that made the distance between the Kings and the Womens Apartment, when she perceived *Aristan*, with that beloved Son which she was lamenting, and whose supposed loss was going in all probability to cause hers effectually. She was no sooner certain of his Life, but that she gave a full scope to all her Joys, and to the tenderness of her Affections; the King was no less sensible of this Happiness: But *Almanzaida*, notwithstanding her resolutions to the contrary, did resent it in a manner which it is like was yet more eminent than the



the rest. *Aristan* in few words did clear more amply that Mystery which had preserved two such precious Lives, and did receive such Eulogies from all as his Fidelity did deserve. *Almanzor*, surpris'd at so many Accidents, could not be taken off from reflecting on the dangers unto which *Cleonisa* had been exposed: As for his part, he found his Soul in such a condition, as made him look upon Death as a refuge, and not as an evil. Embraces and expressions of tenderness were often repeated on all sides; but the Princess *Almanzaida*, who knew by her own experience what Sorrows *Almanzor* did yet feel for her, durst scarcely look upon him.

Mean time it was unhappy *Toxara* who had received that sad fate which was intended for *Almanzor*: He had found the  
Princes

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Princes Chamber open, and while he was walking with *Aristan* in the Garden, he had thrown himself upon his Bed, where the Executioners had strangled him, taking him for *Almanzor*. *Toxara's* loss was not significant enough to disturb so much joy. After *Abdala* had left *Cleonisa* in her Apartment, where he also parted with *Almanzaida*, he retired himself unto his also; and *Abdemar*, who had nothing but Brotherly Affection for *Almanzor*, would not part from him; he being not capable of so strong a Passion as his Brother, his Reason overcame his Love: But *Almanzor* was less conformable; he was more in love than ever: and while the rest were at quiet, his share was Tears and Sighs.

The next morning he rendered his Dovoires unto the King, and in the next place to *Cleonisa*; who

who seeing now her Happiness above her own desires and hopes, did continually ply *Almanzaida* with Caresses. That amiable Princess did answer her Favours with a world of affection, but with as much sadness; so that *Cleonisa* was perswaded, that the knowledge of her Fortune had not restored her Heart to its Liberty, and that *Almanzor* did still hold there a larger place than the name of a Brother would admit of: *Almanzor's* presence did confirm her in that Opinion; and notwithstanding *Almanzaida's* reservedness, her Eyes would speak another Language than that of Friendship unto the passionate *Almanzor*. This mutual Affection did not trouble *Cleonisa*, further than as it had relation to their quiet; and being confident in both their Vertues, she knew that she had no cause to fear of  
that

that side : therefore she busied her thoughts in healing of such Evils which a long Error had contracted : But he was incapable of it ; neither Time, nor *Cleonisa's* and *Aristan's* Cares , could obtain any thing upon his strong Impressions ; but forgetting every moment that *Almanzaida* was his Sister, he did speak to her of his Love : and the young Princess, being sometimes deluded by a too powerful Charm, did hearken unto him without interruption, and did daily more and more plunge her self into an Abyss, whence it was impossible to retrieve her.

Mean time *Roxana* looked upon *Cleonisa's* Prosperity with rage ; and never were so many attempts made for the ruine of her happiness, as then : But all too late ; *Abdala* was convinced of the Vertue of the one, and of the

the others evil Designs : and it is likely that he had resented *Roxana's* wickedness in an higher measure yet, but that he looked upon her as on *Abdemar's* Mother.

*Almanzor* of a Slave had taken upon him the Name and Rank of Prince, but not the Pride ; and as in his mean condition he had the Art of pleasing all the World, it was not difficult for any Person to add to that esteem they had always had for him, those respects due to his Birth. *Aristan* seeing his Designs come so forward, did look upon his good Success with delight ; onely *Almanzor's* obstinate Passion did intermix some discontents with it : He was thinking on the small hopes there was of curing him, when he was advertised, that a Stranger asked to speak with him : He gave order he should be brought in ; and no sooner had he cast his Eyes upon

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on him- than he knew him to be that Person to whom he had intrusted *Almanzaida's* first Years. As he had ever found him most faithful to all his Secrets, he did entertain such thoughts of him as were full of Acknowledgments; so that he embraced him, and after the first testimonies of affection, he offered him his Services at *Moroco*, in all that he should desire. *I am perswaded* (replied *Zideus*) *that you would generously serve a Person in whom you did once repose the highest confidence: but, as the case stands now, it is on no particular Interest that I come here at present. Aristan, I have a business of the highest nature to impart to you, the mystery of which I conjure you to pardon me, since that all my intentions in it, have been but to save you from much sorrow. That Child with whom you had intrusted me,*  
was

was not the same I returned you back, Death bereaved us of it within six months after you had committed it to our care; and I being informed of its Birth, I guess'd at the sorrow that you would have for the loss of it; which to prevent for the present, I supplied the place of the King of Moroco's Daughter, by another young Princess, reduced to seek for succour, and exiled from her very Birth, through extraordinary events, since it had pleased the Heavens to intrust her into our Hands. I did it, Aristan; and the Age was so well fitted, that you were not sensible of the change which I had put upon you. But now pray hearken unto the Story of that Person after whom I am now come to inquire.

You are not ignorant, that Albenzais King of Fez was driven from his Kingdom some twenty  
years

years since, by the ambitious Morat; and that he unhappily ended his days, being about to defend the Remains both of his and his Queen Zaira's Liberty. The Queen was then with Child, and near the time of her Delivery, when the deplorable Albenzais lost his life; the sorrows of his Queen ended hers also, presently after that she had brought a Daughter into the World. I was born in Europe, but had given my self from my youth unto Albenzais his Service, and was married unto one of those Persons whom Zaira did most consider: We were the onely two that did not abandon them in their Adversities; and it was into our Hands (in the presence of Prince Ortis, Brother unto Albenzais, who had never forsaken her) that the dying Queen deposited that innocent Creature which she had newly brought into the World, entreating



us to conceal her from Morat's knowledge, and to retire into some unknown place, to wait for a better Fortune. Ortisis extremely grieved at the Queens death, sent us away without delay, assuring me, that either he would perish in the attempt, or tear Albenzais his Scepter from the unjust Morat's Hands, and restore it unto that new-born Babe his Brother's Daughter. Thus we parted from Ortisis, who some time after was taken by the Agents of Morat, as he was on a Design, and shut up in a close Prison, in which he did languish for a long time.

In the mean time, that I might not be far from some place where I might hear News from Fez, I come to Moroco, where I met with you, and where you were pleased to take me into your Friendship: My Wife did appear to you a fit Person to take upon her the care of  
Abdala's

*Abdala's Daughter : but when, after her death, I had given you the Princess of Fez in lieu of her, I was well satisfied as to that particular ; and finding my self useless at Moroco, I took a Voyage, and at my return learned that Ortis had escaped out of Prison. I made some stay at Fez, and through my care and diligence did learn the place of his retreat. I came to him, he received me kindly ; and I was the more welcome, when I assured him of the Princesses Life. In fine, after divers years of needless Cautions, and of secret Enterprizes, one has taken effect, in which Morat the Usurper has been massacred by the People of Fez, tired with the Oppressions of his Tyrannical Government ; after whose death, Ortis has no sooner appeared, but the Name of Albenzais, and his also, have been repeated a thousand times.*

*times. He generously refusing the Crown, has assured the Chief amongst them, That there was a Daughter of Albenzais's living, in whom his Memory was to be perpetuated; That for his part, he had taken up the Sword but as its Depositary, till the arrival of the Princess. Thus presenting some Papers to Aristan; This is (continued he) the Prince Ortisis his Testimony, with a Note of the Queens, which will confirm the truth of my Relation.*

The Eunuch was so amazed at this Discourse, as to remain some time in a profound silence: But after he had read the Letters, being fully perswaded of a thing in which there was so much demonstration of truth, *Ab, Almanzor, (cried he, thinking on the joy this would bring to the Prince) what happy News are here for you? And being unwilling to*  
lose

lose a moments time of publishing them, in few words he informed *Zideus* of *Almanzaida's* Condition, and gave him also some light Informations of what had passed of her Concerns. So conducting him into the Kings presence, they found *Almanzor* entring the Chamber, with such a consternation of Spirits, 'as did speak him worse than ever he had been yet. *Will you thus for ever give your self over to sorrow, Sir,* (said *Aristan* to him)? *and will you never endeavour to overcome it? I should attempt Impossibilities* (replied the Prince) *should I design it; but as the Cause has been from my Infancy, and as it were born with me, so neither can it end but with my Life. Hope better things, my Lord,* (replied *Aristan*) *Here is a Man, Sir, that boasts of curing you, if you please; but will not undertake a Business of*

of such importance, but in the King's presence. Ah, (*cried out Almanzor*) save me at once both the labour and confusion of informing him of what passes in my Breast. At these words they entered, where they found *Abdemar* only with the King; who presently conceiving, that this Stranger did not present himself thus without Orders, but on some extraordinary account, expected to learn the occasion, when *Aristan* informed the King of the business. During the Relation, never was Man more hearkned unto than he was by *Almanzor*, neither was there ever so pleasing a surprize as this. *Zidens* his Relation, the Queen of *Fex's* Note, and the Letters from *Ortiss*, did joynly confirm the truth, and removed all doubts. *Abdala* was the first that congratulated *Almanzor* with these surprising News, and immediately

immediately went with *Aristan* and *Zideus* unto *Cleonisa's* Apartment, to inform her and *Almanzaida* of a thing that would so strangely surprize them. During their stay in that place, *Almanzor*, in the midst of his Joys, thinking on *Abdemar's* concurrency in his Amours, fell into a sudden melancholy, of which the Prince could not forbear asking him the cause. *Almanzor* ingenuously confessed, that he feared a return of *Abdemar's* amorous Flames, which he might reasonably fear would re-kindle, the rather because his own had never suffered the least decay. *Abdemar* did assure him, in so obliging a manner, that he was free, and that he had no other Affections left for *Almanzaida*, but such as might become a Brother, that far from opposing in the least his Happiness, he would seek all the ways

ways imaginable to contribute to it. The King by his return did further confirm *Almanzor* in his Happiness, in promising him the possession of the Princess of *Fez*; to that purpose immediately sending back with *Zideus* some of the most considerable of his Officers, to advertise the Prince *Ortists* of the state of things, and to demand of him the Princess of *Fez* for *Almanzor*, he being the only Person on whom she did depend.

Mean time *Almanzor* run to *Cleanisa's* Apartment: she took no small part in his contentment, and was somewhat consoled of the loss of her own Daughter, by the consideration that her Son should possess the beautiful *Almanzaida*; to whom he having expressed part of those Joys he felt, he went from her Apartment into that in which was the Prin-

cess of *Fez*, whom he found without company : Their contented looks did speak to each other a mutual joy ; but being both filled with various thoughts, they kept a profound silence for a considerable time, before they could express themselves ; which was first broke by *Almanzor*, in these words : *Madam*, (said he) *all my Happiness has its whole dependency on you onely ; and the same happy Fate which has brought us out of that confusion in which all my hopes were lost, without the least decay or alteration in my affections, does assist me to bring at your Feet both my Love and my Hopes, here prostrating my self, to demand of the Queen of Fez a continuance of those Affections which the beauteous Almanzaida did once entertain for the Slave Almanzor. My Lord*, (replied *Almanzaida*) you should demand  
with



with more confidence that which you are sure to obtain: The Slave *Almanzor* was ever dear unto me; *Almanzaida's* Brother has been the same, peradventure more than he ought to have been; and the Prince of *Moroco* shall ever be more precious than her own Life unto the Daughter of *Albenzais*. I complained against Fortune, when some Circumstances had made me believe that I was *Abdali's* Daughter, because that Greatness was outrageous to the Inclinations of a Heart which could not pardon any thing that did but check its Passions for *Almanzor*: But now I am contented with my change, since that through *Ortisis* his Generosity it gives me a Throne, in which I may have something that may please you. It is you onely, Sir, that I can share it with; and give me leave to tell you, that

that which renders it the most considerable to me, is, that I can offer it you. *Generous Princess*, (replied the passionate Lover) *all that I can boast of, is of a Heart that has been wholly yours since it first knew it self. I have nothing more to repay those precious Favours which you so profuse'y pour upon me.* That Heart you speak of (replied Almanzaida) which I esteem above the World, has already acquitted you of all the Favours I could bestow upon you; and no sooner shall *Ortists* say the word, but---  
*Ah, Madam*, (cried out *Almanzor*) *can he be the sole Opponent to my Happiness?* Hope for better things (replied the Princess); *Zideus* has given us an advantageous account of his Goodness, and his Actions hitherto have been answerable to it: Having so much Vertue, he cannot be ungrateful; and

and if he is sensible, he will doubtless share in those Obligations which I owe you. *It is I that owe you immortal ones* (interrupted the Prince) *and I should have just cause to fear all things, if I had not more confidence in both your Goodness, than in all my Pretensions.* My Lord, (*replied the Princess*) I hope he will be favourable to you; but should I be deceived in my hopes, that Faith which I at present give you, to be ever yours, shall never be altered.

These last words elevated *Almanzor* at the height of his happiness. *Cleonisa* met him: *Abdemar* came presently after, and did assure them in a handsom manner of the joy he resented at their satisfaction.

In fine, after a tedious expectation for our impatient Lovers (though it was not long) *Abda-*

*la's* Envoys returned with a full consent from *Ortisis*, for *Almanzaid's* Marriage; which was no longer deferred, than to prepare the Gallantry thereof, which was worthy *Abdala's* Magnificence, and sutable to those Lovers for whom it was made.

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*F I N I S.*

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